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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,507	02/19/2004	Shinichi Kurita	007957	4717
41161	7590	02/09/2006	Display/AHRDWRE	
DUGAN & DUGAN, PC 55 SOUTH BROADWAY TARRYTOWN, NY 10591			EXAMINER TRAN, KHOI H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3651	

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/782,507

Applicant(s)

KURITA ET AL.

Examiner

Khoi H. Tran

Art Unit

3651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/16/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-31 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

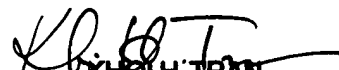
### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
KHÔI H. TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 1-10, in the reply filed on 10/14/2005 is acknowledged. The Species Requirement filed on 09/14/2005 is hereby withdrawn per Applicant's argument that claims 1-10 are "generic".

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 2 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. It appears that claim 2 contains the same limitations recited from line 10 to line 17 of claim 1.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

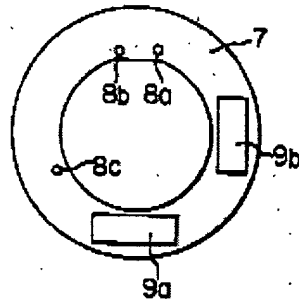
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato et al. 4,407,627.

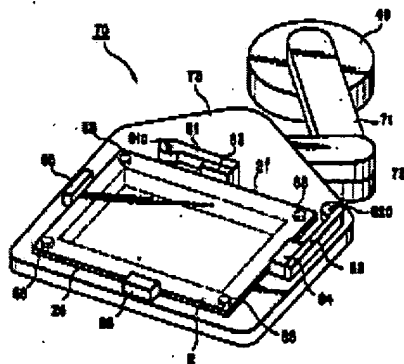
Sato et al. '627 disclose a substrate positioning system per claimed invention. The system comprises plurality of pushing devices 9a/9b and plurality of stops 8a/8b/8c arranged in spaced relation around a stage (see figure on the next page). Pushers 9a/9b are arranged perpendicular from one another. The system comprises an inherent

controller coupled to each pushing device to cause the pushers to push the substrate against the stops 8a/8b/8c.



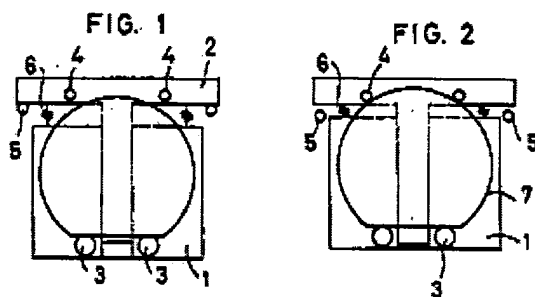
5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hikori et al. 5,374,147.

Hikori et al. '147 disclose a substrate positioning system per claimed invention. The system comprises plurality of pushing devices 81/82 and plurality of stops 85/86 arranged in spaced relation around a stage (see figure below). Pushers 81/82 are arranged perpendicular from one another. The system comprises a controller coupled to each pushing device to cause the pushers to push the substrate against the stops.



6. Claims 1-6 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mutoh 5,484,252.

Mutoh '252 discloses a substrate positioning system per claimed invention. The system comprises plurality of pushing devices 4 and plurality of stops 3 arranged in spaced relation around a stage (see figure below). Each pusher comprises a spring 6 for biasing the pusher toward the edge of the substrate. Each pusher comprises a retracting device 14 adapted to counteract the spring. The system comprises an inherent controller coupled to each pushing device to cause the pushers to push the substrate against the stops.



7. Claims 1-6 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ebbing et al. 6,155,773.

Ebbing et al. '773 disclose a substrate positioning system per claimed invention. The system comprises plurality of pushing devices 92 and plurality of stops 68/70 arranged in spaced relation around a stage (see figure on the next page). Each pusher comprises a spring 110 for biasing the pusher toward the edge of the substrate. Each pusher comprises a retracting device 82 adapted to counteract the spring. The system comprises a controller coupled to each pushing device to cause the pushers to push the substrate against the stops 68/70.



## Conclusion

8. Additional references made of record and not relied upon are considered to be of interest to applicant's disclosure: see attached USPTO Form 892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khoi H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-6919. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

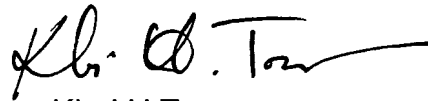
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene Crawford can be reached on (571) 272-6911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Khoi H. Tran', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Khoi H Tran  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3651

KHT  
02/06/2006